

SAVING LIVES CHANGING LIVES

# WFP Libya Country Brief

## **Operational Context**

Persistent insecurity and instability since Libya's 2011 uprising have led the socioeconomic, humanitarian and protection environment to deteriorate significantly. A decade later, many households are struggling to meet their basic needs and face high unemployment rates, a severe economic downturn and struggling public services, compounded by the absence of previously elaborate social safety nets. Sudden-onset shocks, including the emergence of COVID-19, have also rendered the situation more complex. But momentum towards peace is building, with a ceasefire agreed in October 2020 and an interim Government of National Unity appointed in March 2021.

Confronted with this multi-layered and volatile crisis, WFP has maintained its ability to rapidly adapt and respond to needs. Under its Interim Country Strategic Plan (ICSP) 2019-2022, WFP assists food-insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including crisis-affected internally displaced persons, returnees, non-displaced populations, refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in urban settings. The ICSP encompasses general and emergency food assistance as well as complementary programmes such as school feeding and food assistance for training to build resilience and empower youth and women. WFP also engages across the humanitarian-development-peace nexus and supports the review and rehabilitation of social protection systems.

WFP co-leads the Food Security Sector and leads the Logistics and Emergency Telecommunications Sectors. To strengthen the humanitarian community's capacity, WFP manages the UN Humanitarian Air Service and UN Hub in Benghazi.



Population: 6.7 million Libyans and 0.63 million migrants/refugees (estimated)

## **In Numbers**



**34,556 people assisted** in November 2021 (est.)

**92 MT of food assistance** in November 2021

**426,135 USD of voucher assistance** in November 2021

USD 14.3 million six-month funding requirements (December 2021–May 2022) Operational Updates

- WFP Libya reached 34,556 beneficiaries in November. Some 3,520 beneficiaries were reached through the monthly in-kind General Food Assistance (GFA), 18,565 beneficiaries through commodity voucher, 2,705 beneficiaries through value voucher, 6,507 refugees and migrants through in-kind ready-to-eat food distributions, 879 refugees through commodity voucher- Ready to Eat (RTE) food distributions, and 1,630 individuals through Food for Assistance/Training interventions.
- In November, only 5 percent of its planned beneficiaries were reached through the in-kind GFA as WFP faced delays in having 665 mt of its new consignments cleared by the Food and Drug Control Centre (FDCC) in Tripoli. To avoid future delays, WFP Libya is working with FDCC to expedite the clearance process.
- Through the Rapid Response Mechanism, WFP distributed emergency food assistance to some 750 flood-affected individuals in Benghazi on 2 November.
- WFP received "green-light" from the Sebha Municipality to build a new market and green space to support the local economy, strengthen the existing food systems, and enhance social cohesion between people from different ethnic groups.
- WFP attended the International Mediterranean Conference on the Role of the Private Sector in Achieving the SDGs. On the sideline of the conference, WFP discussed with the Ministry of Labour officials' potential areas of collaboration (e.g. school feeding and social protection) and reiterated its willingness to support the country's future development plans.
- WFP trained eleven NGO Partners on conflict sensitivity to mainstream this component into WFP's activities and improve WFP's contribution to social cohesion and performance on conflict sensitivity in Libya.
- WFP and the World Bank presented the findings of the Core Diagnostic Instrument analysis of Social Protection Systems in Libya to the Cash and Market Working Group.

**Photo: Photo:** Rawad Halabi, WFP Representative and Country Director in Libya talks about the importance of the private sector in addressing the SDGs at the First International Mediterranean Conference in Tunis. © WFP/Seetashma Thapa

## **WFP Country Strategy**



Interim Country Strategic Plan (2019-2022)		
Total Requirements (USD)		Total Received (USD)
156 million		76 million
2021 Requirement s (USD)	2022 Requirements (USD)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (USD) (December 2021 – May 2022)
42 million	50 million	14.3 million
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Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

**Strategic Outcome 1:** Crisis-affected vulnerable populations in Libya, including schoolchildren, have access to sufficient and nutritious food during and in the aftermath of crises *Focus area: Crisis Response* 

#### Activities:

 Provide assistance to food-insecure and vulnerable people in Libya, including schoolchildren, and pilot complementary interventions that improve food security and nutrition

**Strategic Outcome 2:** Vulnerable populations across Libya have strengthened livelihoods and restored access to basic services all year *Focus area*: *Resilience Building* 

#### Activities:

• Provide skills strengthening to vulnerable communities and enhance national and local safety nets

Strategic Outcome 3: The humanitarian community in Libya has strengthened capacity to assist vulnerable populations during and in the aftermath of crises Focus area: Crisis Response

#### Activities:

- Provide logistics services to humanitarian partners in Libya
- Provide air services for personnel and light cargo (UN Humanitarian Air Service UNHAS)
- Provide common ICT to humanitarian partners in Libya
- The opening of the UN Hub in Benghazi, a UN compound shared by UNSMIL and UN agencies

## **Monitoring and Assessment**

- In November, WFP's Third-Party monitoring conducted 92 on-site visits to monitor in-kind and voucher GFA, as well as the Ready-to-Eat rations distributions in the East, South, and West of Libya. Around 27 on-site visits were also conducted to monitor the food for training classes in the South and West to oversee the ongoing progress of the training classes. Furthermore, seven on-site visits were conducted to visit the status of the food for asset projects in Ghat, Traghen, and Ubari.
- The second round of post-distribution monitoring calls that started in November reached out to some 1,060 beneficiaries from 16 cities from the East, South, and West.
- The Food and Nutrition Survey for and Migration Pulse are under review for finalization.

## **Gender:**

• WFP Gender Focal Point worked alongside WFP's cooperating partners to <u>raise awareness</u> on gender-based violence (GBV) amongst beneficiaries as part of the country office observance of the 16 Days of Activism against GBV campaign.

WFP Libya Country Brief November 2021

## **Sectors and Common Services**

- The Emergency Telecommunications Sector (ETS) inter-agency Community Feedback Mechanism (CFM) registered 3,765 cases of people requesting information or assistance in November. Ninety-nine percent of the calls received were related to humanitarian services. The most frequently raised concerns related to Protection, Cash, and Food Assistance. The CFM also serves as a national COVID-19 informational hotline in Libya.
- The ETS continues to provide free-of-charge internet services at the UNHCR Community Day Centre in Tripoli. Around 32 persons of concern used the service in 171 unique sessions this month.
- UNHAS provided vital access to over 380 passengers from 39 different organizations via 18 scheduled flights connecting the East, West, and South of the country that flew from Tunis to Tripoli, Sebha and Benghazi, and back. During this period around 0.41 mt of cargo was transported. Two scheduled flights to Sebha and Misratah were canceled due to a lack of passengers.
- In November, WFP received a €1 million contribution from the European Union to support WFP-led humanitarian air operations in Libya.

## Challenges

- WFP urgently requires the funding of USD 14.3 million from December 2021 until May 2022. Following this pipeline break, WFP is obliged to reduce the in-kind GFA rations by 50 percent for some 90,000 people starting December 2021 to avoid the complete suspension of life-saving interventions. WFP has already informed beneficiaries, partners and donors regarding ration reductions.
- Libya's presidential elections are scheduled to take place 24 December 2021, although given the on-going political disagreements and dire humanitarian situation, elections may be delayed, or the results of the election may trigger widespread violence. WFP Libya has assessed the possible scenarios and established a contingency plan to deal with different possible challenges during and after the election period.

#### **Donors** (in alphabetical order)

Canada, CERF, Czech Republic, EU Humanitarian Aid, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, WFP Multilateral Donors, WFP Private Sector Partners, World Bank

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